

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00079 250500Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 (ISO) W

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R 250406Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1781

USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MUSCAT 079

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV EMIN MU

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT PROPOSAL: SMALL STEEL PLANT FOR OMAN

REF: (A) 75 MUSCAT 1214, (B) 75 MUSCAT 989

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED FURTHER INFO ON SMALL STEEL PLANT FOR OMAN FROM BARAKAT LAMKI, DEPUTY UNDER SECY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. LAMKI REMARKED THAT TWO DETAILED PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED ALREADY FOR REROLLING MILL WITH CAPACITY OF 120,000 TONS/YEAR. TWO COMPANIES SUBMITTING PROPOSAL, GUEST KEEN WILLIAMS OF UK AND KORFF OF WEST GERMANY, ARE FRONT-RUNNERS FOR GETTING CONTRACT. PROJECT COST IS ESTIMATED AT \$25-30 MILLION.

2. ACCORDING TO LAMKI, OUTPUT OF MILL WOULD MOSTLY BE REINFORCEMENT BARS FOR CONSTRUCTION. MILL WOULD BE SUPPLIED WITH BILLETS IMPORTED FROM INDIA OR PAKISTAN. USING PRESENT PLANS, PLANT WOULD BE POWERED BY NATURAL GAS. LAMKI EXPECTS THAT KORFF OR GUEST KEEN WILLIAMS WOULD HOLD PART OF EQUITY OF VENTURE AND HELP MANAGE IT AFTER COMPLETION. HE REMARKED THAT OMANIS ARE NOT LOOKING FOR ANY MORE TURNKEY PROJECTS.

3. EVEN IF OMANGOV MAKES FINAL DECISION ON CONTRACTOR FOR MILL, PROJECT WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL NATURAL GAS CAN BE PIPED TO COAST FROM INTERIOR OIL FIELDS. ADEQUATE WATER AND ELECTRICITY ARE LACKING AT PROPOSED PROJECT SITE, ALTHOUGH THESE PROBLEMS SHOULD BE ALLEVIATED WHEN DESALINIZATION PLANT

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GOES INTO OPERATION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, STEEL, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS
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Draft Date: 25 JAN 1976
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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